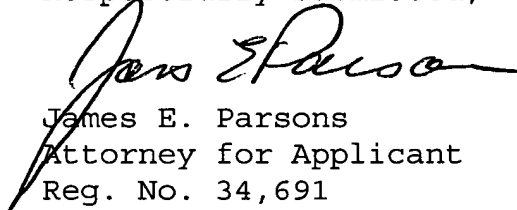


REMARKS

The Office Action requires an election of species, between claims including the term "approximately zero", as in claims 11 and 31, and "zero," as in claim 12. The species of "approximately zero" is selected. It is submitted, however, that "zero" is a subset of "approximately zero." Accordingly, claim 12 is amended to depend on claim 11.

If there are any questions, please telephone the undersigned at (408) 451-5906 to expedite prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST CLASS MAIL in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 23, 2004.

2/23/2004 
Date Signature: Rebecca A. Baumann